Vol. V, pp. 21-44, pls. 6-19 March 20, 1893

THE

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC MAGAZINE

THE MOVEMENTS

OF

OUR POPULATION

HENRY GANNETT

WASHINGTON

Published by the National Geographic Society

Price 30 cents

VOL. V, PP. 21-42, PLS. 8-11 MARCH 20, 1893

THE

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC MAGAZINE

THE MOVEMENTS OF OUR POPULATION

BY

HENRY GANNETT

(Presented before the Society December 9, 1892)

THE TOTAL POPULATION.

By the movement of population is to be understood its numerical increase, its geographic distribution over the country, and its composition as regards sex, race and nativity, not only at present but in past times.

This is a broad subject, and in an attempt to compress it within the limits of a single paper it will be impossible to go deeply into details. I shall attempt only to develop the principal features and to bring out their mutual relations.

The first permanent settlement within the original area of the United States was made at Jamestown, Virginia, in 1607; the next at Plymouth in 1620. These were followed nine years later by the settlements at Salem and Boston. In 1623 the Dutch settled at New York. From 1631 to 1634 colonies were established on Kent island and Saint Marys, on the shore of Chesapeake bay, and in 1638 at Wilmington, Delaware. In 1664 settlements were established at Elizabeth, New Jersey, and on Cape Fear river, North Carolina, and six years later on Ashley river, North Carolina. The settlements in Pennsylvania began

in 1681. It was not until 1733 that settlement was established in the present state of Georgia, in the neighborhood of what is now the city of Savannah.

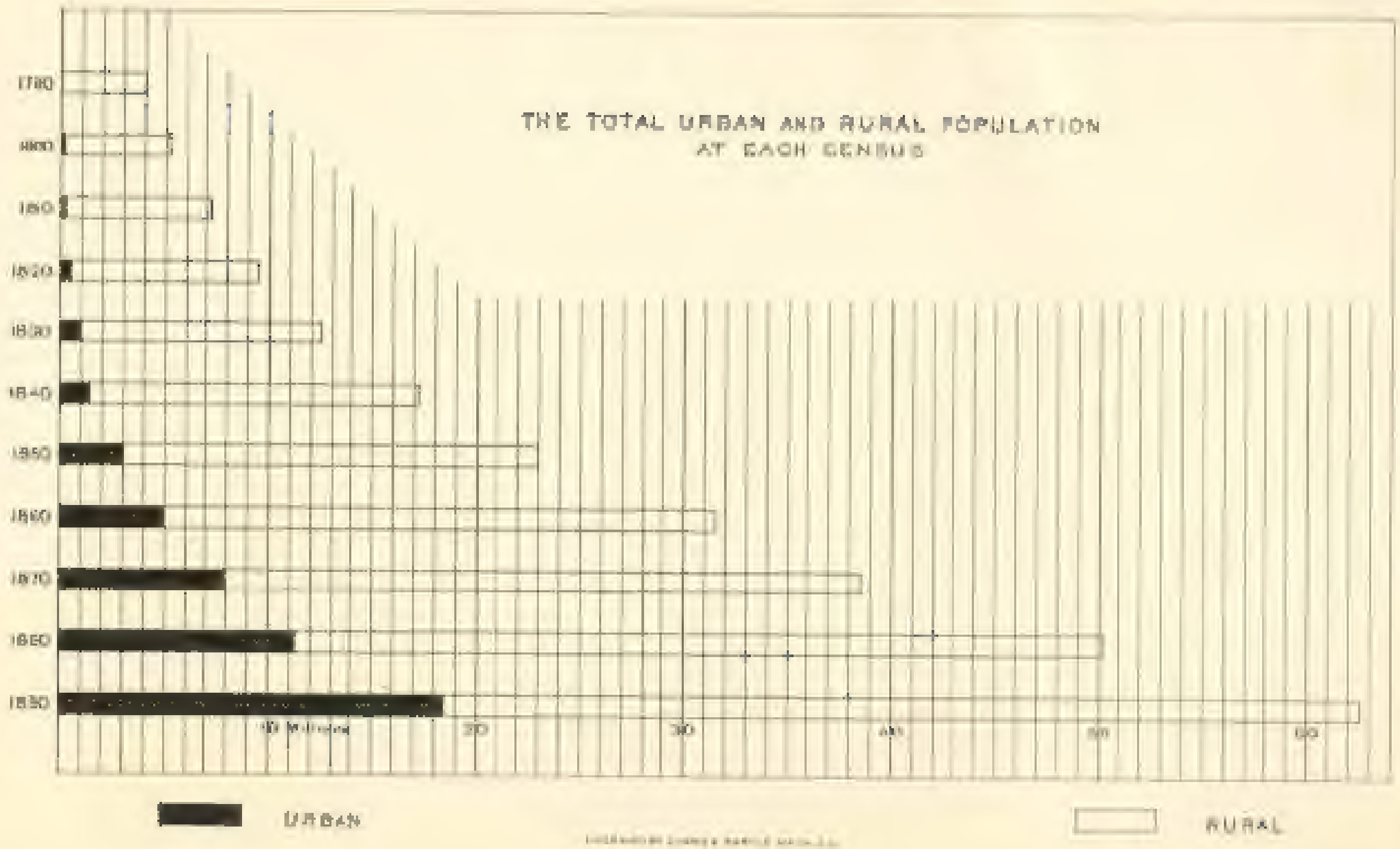
The early colonies suffered many hardships and dangers and grew but slowly. Bancroft estimates their people at approximately 200,000 in 1688, three-quarters of a century from the time of the first settlement. He estimates the population in 1760, nearly a century and a half after the first settlement, at 1,260,000. Ten years later, in 1770, it was 1,695,000; in 1770 it was 2,312,000, and in 1780, 2,945,000. Thus, at the outbreak of the Revolution the population of the colonies was probably not far from 2,500,000, of which it is estimated that 2,000,000 were whites and 500,000 blacks.

In 1790 the first census of the United States was taken. From that time to the present a census has been taken every ten years. For a century, therefore, we have a trustworthy record of our numbers. Starting a century ago with 3,929,214 inhabitants, we have gone ahead by great leaps, as shown in the following table and diagram, until our country contains to-day 62,622,250 people:

Population of the United States by Decades.

Census years.	Population.	Per cent of increase.
1790	3,929,214	.....
1800	5,308,483	35.10
1810	7,239,881	36.38
1820	9,638,453	33.06
1830	12,866,020	33.55
1840	17,069,453	32.67
1850	23,191,876	35.86
1860	31,443,321	35.57
1870	38,558,371	22.66
1880	50,155,783	30.07
1890	62,622,250	24.85

The diagram (plate 6) shows by the lengths of the bars the population as returned at each census, the difference between their absolute lengths representing the numerical increase from census to census, and their relative lengths the proportional increase. In the first twenty-five years the population doubled; in the second twenty-five years it doubled again, the population in 1840 being four times that in 1790. But in recent years the


THE TOTAL URBAN AND RURAL POPULATION
AT EACH CENSUS
1790
1800
1810
1820
1830
1840
1850
1860
1870
1880
1890
10 Millions
20
30
40
50
60
URBAN
RURAL

rate of increase has diminished. Instead of doubling in the last twenty-five years, as it did in the first half-century of our history, it has required thirty years, the population in 1890 being almost precisely double that in 1860.

In the early decades of our history the rate of increase ranged from 36 to 32 per cent. Between 1840 and 1850 it rose again suddenly to nearly 36 per cent, owing to the first rush of immigration. Between 1860 and 1870 the check due to the civil war is strongly emphasized.

The rates of increase shown by the figures are extremely large as compared with those of European nations; many times larger than that of France, several times larger than that of Great Britain, and greatly in excess of that of Germany. Indeed, in rapidity of growth no other civilized nation of history has ever approached this country. While in the past thirty years this country has doubled its population, France has increased but 3 per cent, Great Britain and Ireland 29 per cent, and Prussia 62 per cent. Since 1797 Prussia has increased in number from 3,700,000 to 30,000,000, while this country has increased from four or five millions to 62,622,250; nor is this tremendous increase due in any great degree to immigration, since in all probability, as shown later, the earlier rates of increase would have been nearly maintained by the excess of births over deaths had there been no immigration.

While in the United States as a whole the population has increased during the century at this marvelous rate, individual states show the widest possible range in their rates of increase. As a group, the thirteen original states have never gained so rapidly as the United States as a whole. Their rate of increase has always been smaller than that of the country. The reason for this is that throughout our history these states have furnished the brain and brawn for the settlement of the west. There has been a continuous stream of emigration from the Atlantic border to the Mississippi valley, the plains, the Rocky mountains, and the Pacific slope. Millions upon millions of young men and women of the east have left their homes to found empires in the west.

In the northeastern states this drain has since 1847 been in large part made up by foreign immigration, and thus has the character of the inhabitants of these states in great measure been changed from the pure English stock of Revolutionary times. In the south there has been no flood of immigration, and the

losses which these states have sustained have been repaired only in part by the fecundity of the people.

On the other hand, in the newer states where settlement began since we became a nation, the rate of increase of population was at first extremely large and then diminished down to the present time; but it has not diminished uniformly or continuously, because of certain disturbing elements.

In the progress of settlement of this and perhaps other countries there is a certain order or sequence in the occupations followed by the majority of the people, an order which accompanies and is closely related to the increasing density of the population. After the pioneers, or hunters, trappers, etc, commonly follow herdsmen and ranchmen as the first settlers. The raising of cattle, which requires a wide range of country for pasturage, is the prominent industry of a newly opened territory. Then farmers come and gradually crowd the herdsmen out. The land is occupied in small parcels and affords sustenance to a much larger number, but the time ultimately arrives when the population becomes too dense for profitable farming, and a portion of the people, taking the hint given them by the increasing hardness of the times, enter other avocations; and so manufactures and commerce take their beginnings and gradually grow and multiply until the farmer finds himself in the minority. The body of people are engaged in making things instead of raising things. Now, when a nation or state approaches the limit in density of population of successful farming it does not pass easily and freely into a manufacturing community. There is more or less trouble. There are hard times and a depreciation of values for a while. It is a sort of dead-point to the machinery; but when the change is effected, or on the way to be effected, prosperity once more beams upon the community.

This is not an ideal case. We have before us in the states of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Iowa, and in parts of adjacent states examples of communities which are now passing through just such a crisis. The growth of population in these states is at present very slow. The farmers are getting crowded, while other industries are not sufficiently advanced to take their place. A quarter of a century ago southern New England was in that situation, but has now emerged from it, and having become a manufacturing section is exceedingly prosperous and the population is increasing again with great rapidity, the increase being essentially urban.

FIG 1
SETTLED AREA IN 1790

FIG 2
SETTLED AREA IN 1890

SETTLED AREA OF THE UNITED STATES

This change involves more than [illegible]. It involves a change of farm values, [illegible], the gathering of the people together in cities and [illegible].

THE SETTLED AREA

Now, let us trace the spread of the population over our domain and the increase in number. Its progress across the continent is illustrated by the maps showing the status of settlement at the beginning of each decade of the century. These maps represent the settled area of the country at each date, it being understood that by the term "settled area" is meant that part of the country which contains two or more inhabitants to the square mile, any territory less than that being regarded as unsettled.

But first a word about our territorial growth. In 1790 our territory was bounded on the west by the Mississippi river and on the south by the northern line of Florida. In 1803 the enormous territory of Louisiana was added by purchase, and shortly thereafter Oregon was acquired by prior discovery. In 1819 Florida was acquired from Spain. In 1845 Texas, having achieved its independence from Mexico, was admitted as a State. In 1848 the great western territories were acquired from Mexico by the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, and in 1853 the Gadsden purchase completed the territory of the United States as it exists at present, with the exception of the detached territory of Alaska.

In 1790 we find settlement extending continuously along the Atlantic coast from Maine to Georgia, and occupying the greater part of the Atlantic plain. At several points it stretches far westward, up the Mohawk river in New York, crossing the mountains in Pennsylvania and Maryland and stretching down the Appalachian valleys into eastern Tennessee, while in northern Kentucky, in the neighborhood of Cincinnati, quite a body of settlement has appeared separated from the rest. Each succeeding decade has seen the frontier pushed westward, crossing the Appalachians, and moving gradually across the great valley of the Mississippi to the prairies. With every succeeding census we see isolated bodies of settlement established far from the frontier at points where the exceptional fertility of the soil, facilities for Indian trade, or value of mines have attracted the

pioneers. These centers have grown and spread until their margins have touched the main frontier line and they have become merged into the great body of population. In two or three instances bodies of population which have grown up under foreign powers have fallen under our jurisdiction by the acquisition of territory. Among these are the old French settlements near the mouth of the Mississippi, the Mexican-Spanish settlements in Texas, and the Spanish settlements of New Mexico, Arizona and California. In 1850 a body of population first appeared in the vicinity of San Francisco on the Pacific coast, a result of the discovery of gold in California, and the settlement in Utah of Mormons. In 1860 these settlements had expanded widely. The gold-hunters of California had been joined by thousands of farmers who were settling the broad acres of the Sacramento valley. The Mormons had increased and spread, and gold hunters had appeared in the [illegible] Mountains.

The second of these maps, plate 2, figure 2, representing the status of settlement in 1880, marks an epoch in the history of our settlement. The frontier line has disappeared. The settlements in the far west have spread out and coalesced. The settlements from the east have traversed the prairies and have pushed up into the mountains at many points, so that the settled area has become [illegible] and the country passes to a new phase. It would seem to be needless to advise young men to go west and grow up with the country, for the country is rapidly growing up.

Per cent of Increase of Actual Area and of Population.

Census years.	Area.	Population.	Per cent of increase: Area.	Per cent of increase: Population.
[illegible]	239,935	3,929,214		
[illegible]	305,708	5,308,483	[illegible]	[illegible]
1810	407,945	7,239,881	[illegible]	[illegible]
1820	508,717	9,633,822	[illegible]	[illegible]

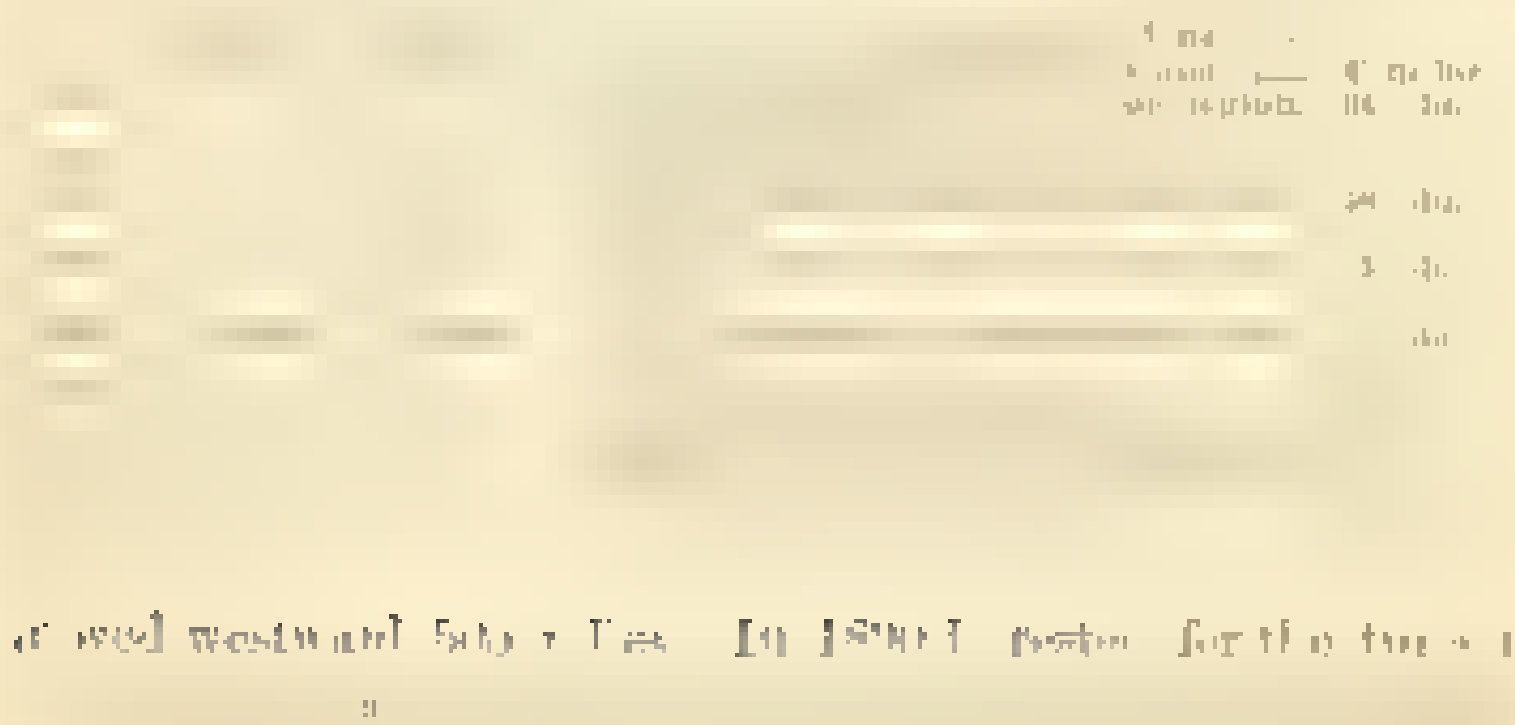

POSITION OF THE
CENTER OF POPULATION
AT THE CLOSE OF EACH DECADE FROM

The settled area at each census has been measured and the results compared one with another. This table presents the rates of increase of the settled area compared with one another, and also with the rates of increase of the population. It is seen that while the settled area has increased at a rate [illegible] times the population has increased at a rate [illegible] times.

CENTRE OF POPULATION.

The distribution of the population is illustrated in the position of the centre of population, which for convenience is here taken as the centre of gravity of all the people, the centre of population is the centre of gravity of all the people, and the centre of population is the centre of gravity of all the people, computed under the assumption that each is a body of the same weight, and that it presses downwards with a force proportional to the distance from the centre. In 1790 the centre of population was located near Baltimore, in the eastern part of the Appalachian [illegible]. In the [illegible] decades the centre has moved westward, [illegible] the [illegible] from 20 to 51 miles with an average of [illegible] miles. Now it varies northward and [illegible] in western course as the weight of settlement has been attracted northward, and again southward, perhaps by the attraction of Texas with its body of American-Mexicans people, but generally keeping a consistent course westward and southward. In the [illegible] years it has

Location of the Centre of Population in each Census.



[illegible] Westward Extension of Times. [illegible]

[illegible] of the United States, which is [illegible] be [illegible] It will be [illegible] the largest number of population and approaches the smallest of the country. The above table and plate show the population and increase of the cities of [illegible] among [illegible]

DENSITY OF POPULATION

The following table shows the density of the population or the average number of people to the square mile at each census:

Density of population by Census.

Census years.	Area.	Density
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

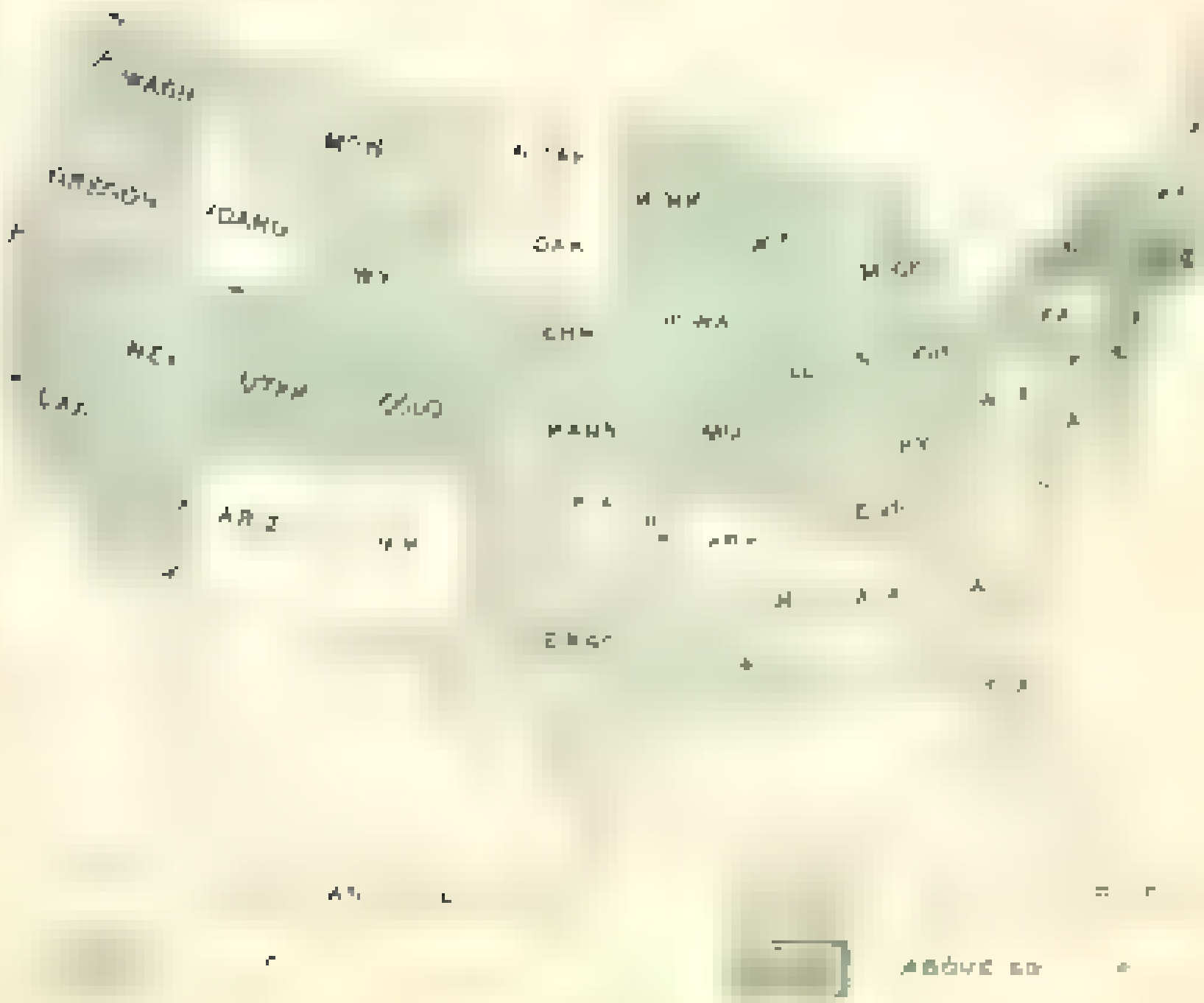
The map (plate 3, figure 1) shows the density of population in 1890 by states. In southern New England—that is, in Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut—it ranges from [illegible] of population is as great as in many old European countries [illegible] and in Rhode Island it [illegible] to the square mile, in Massachusetts, 418, and in New Jersey 194. These are all great manufacturing states. In the remote [illegible] states of the south the density range is [illegible] as low as 41 in West Virginia and 30 in Kentucky, while in the general [illegible] states of the Mississippi valley [illegible] we find a density of 68 in the states of [illegible] and 61 in Illinois. The average density of the [illegible] of the two upper tables.

URBAN POPULATION

In the [illegible] "urban population" the Census Office [illegible] [illegible] of 8,000 or more. Of course this definition is not only [illegible] but as [illegible] urban condi-

FIG. 1.

DENSITY OF TOTAL POPULATION



DENSITY OF POPULATION

[illegible]

[illegible]	[illegible] of the United States	[illegible] of cities	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

A century ago this country contained but six cities having a population of more than 8000 each, and these in all contained but 200,000 people, or about 1 per cent of the population. Today the number of such cities is 4500, and they contain about 40 per cent of our population. Of the total population, about sixteen times as great as it was a hundred years ago, while the urban population is 164 times as great. It has grown eight times as fast as the total population.

This concentration of the people in the cities is a natural and necessary result of the increasing density of population and of the consequent decrease in average distance between the producer and the consumer. It will continue, and the concentration will [illegible] until the cities are so numerous that no part of the country shall be more than a day's journey from a city, and the density of population the heart of a successful agriculture.

Referring to the map on p. 9, figure 2a, which shows the proportion of urban to total population, it is seen that the urban

population of the country is confined almost entirely to the Northern states, especially those on the Atlantic border. Indeed, in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York and New Jersey the urban element is in the majority, and in Rhode Island more than three-fourths of the total live in the cities, while in the Southern states the proportion in North Carolina, Mississippi and Arkansas is but trifling, being less than 5 per cent in each case.

Now, if the urban element be subtracted from the total population there is left what may be broadly characterized as the rural element. Plate 6 shows by the total length of the bars the population of the United States at each census, the shaded portion of each bar representing the urban population at each date, while the unshaded part in each one represents the rural population. This element, which in the early decades increased nearly as rapidly as the total population, has in later years increased more and more slowly. Indeed during the past ten years its rate of increase was not much more than half that of the total population, while in several states there has been an absolute loss of rural population during the past decade, and in many others the gain has been much less than the average gain of the country.

The increase of urban population has been more rapid during the past decade than at any previous time in the country's history, having in ten years increased from 22.5 per cent to 29 per cent. This great increase has in the main taken the form of additions to the larger cities, most of which have grown enormously.

The numerical increase in our urban population in the past ten years is 6,000,000, of which fully one-half is the increase of fifteen of the largest cities, each of 100,000 or more inhabitants. Chicago's half million increase has been made wholly since 1880. St. Paul, Minneapolis, Omaha, Kansas City and Denver have doubled or tripled their populations. Our greatest city, New York, has apparently had a comparatively slow growth, but this is only apparent. New York's charter limits include less than one-half of the people whose business and social interests lie in that metropolis. The great majority of the people who sleep within an hour's ride of New York city hall are to all intents and purposes, except in name, citizens of New York, but having their residence without its charter limits are enumerated as non-residents. A close estimate of

FIG 1
AVERAGE SIZE OF FAMILIES

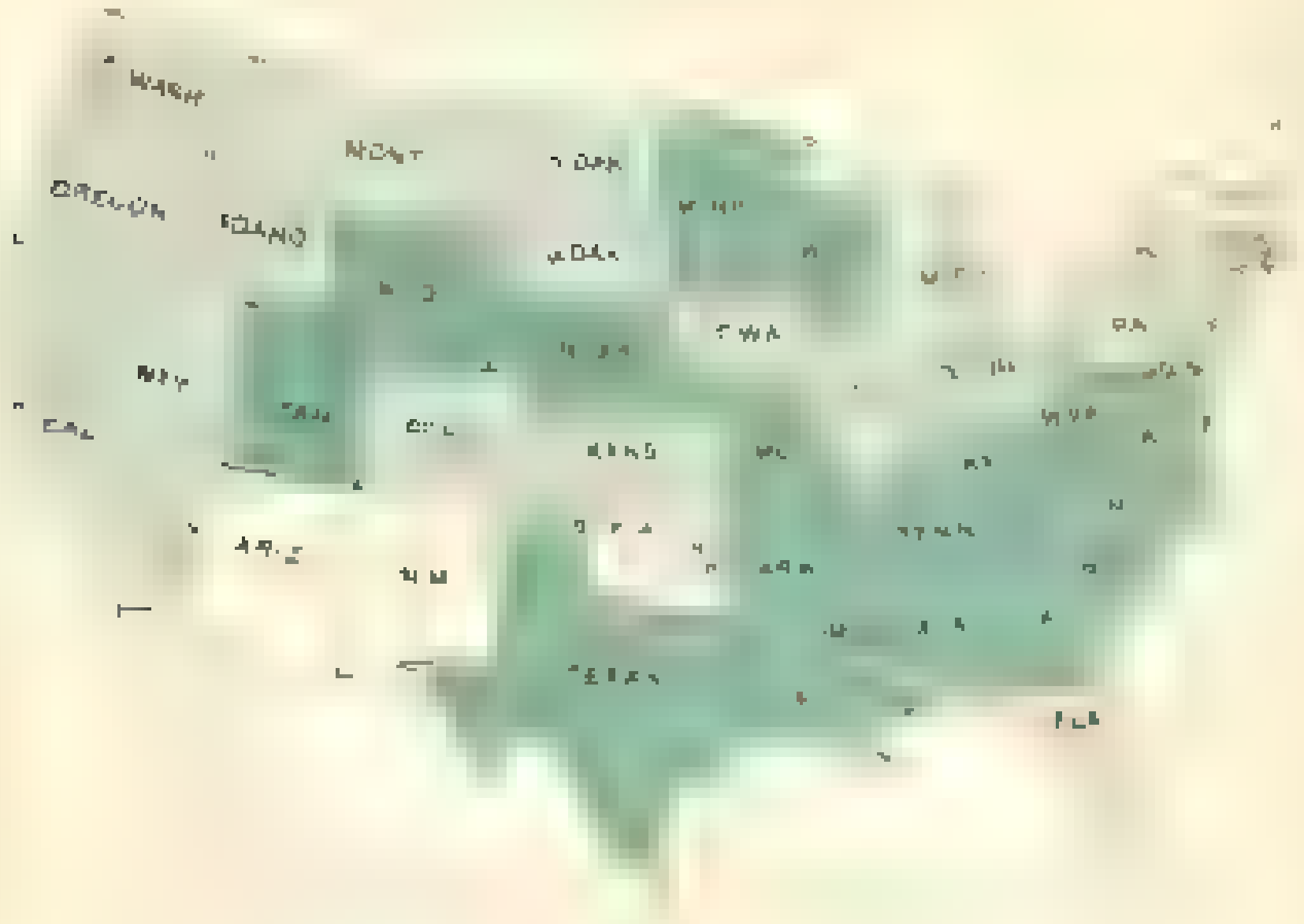
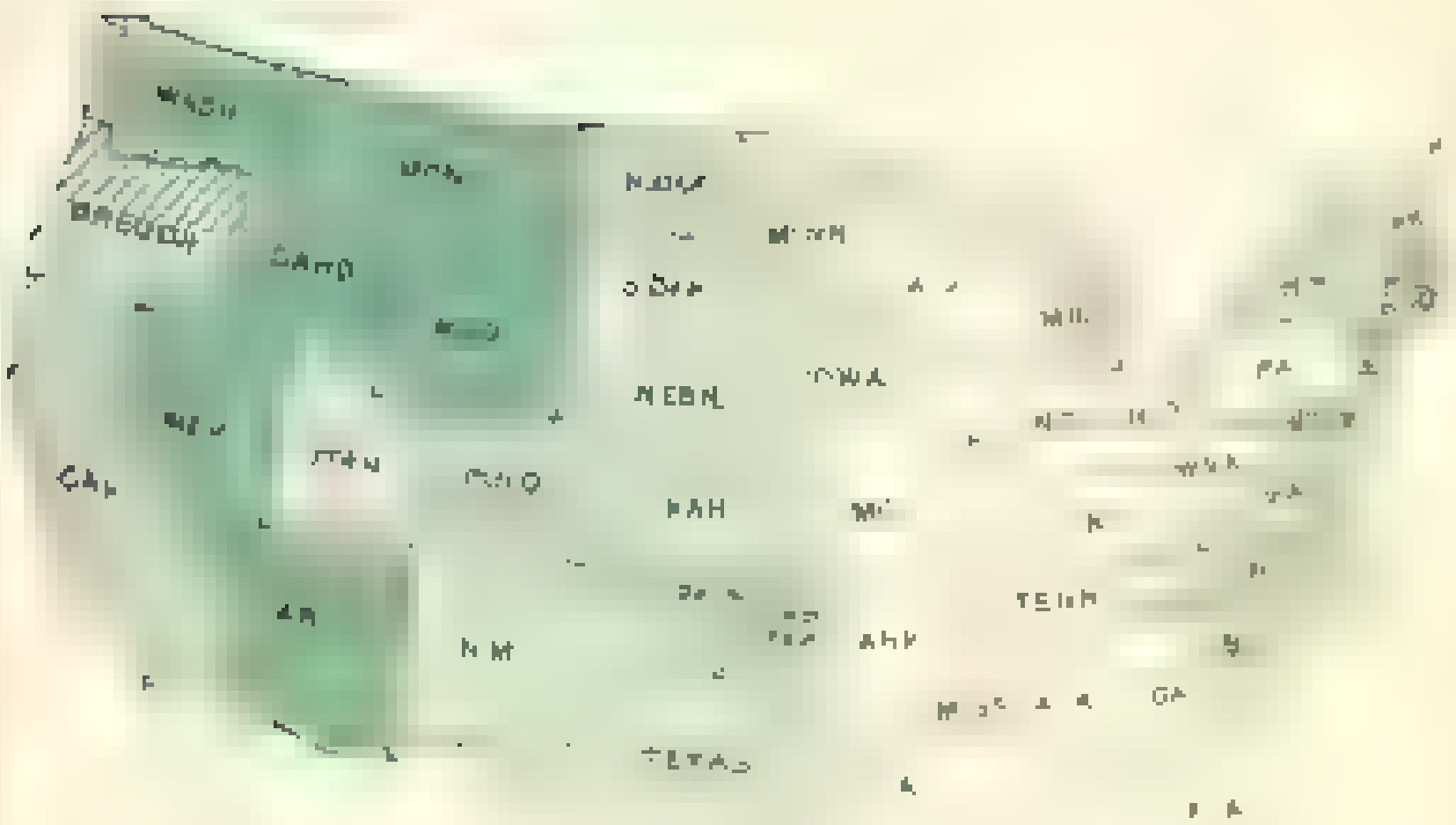


FIG THAN 4½ PERSONS TO A FAMILY

4½ 5

FIG 2
DEATH RATE ON BY SEX



FEMALES IN EXCESS

MALES IN EXCESS

52-60

OVER 60

DEATH RATE ON BY FAMILIES AND SEX

connected with the metropolis place their number at 3,250,000 or second only to London in point of population.

The territory, tributary to but lying outside of the charter limits of New York, has increased in population at a tremendous rate during the past ten years, while the growth of the city proper has been confined to the upper portion of Manhattan Island and the portion of the city lying upon the mainland. The downtown wards of the city have lost in population during the past ten years. The [illegible] in recent years, and the residences is being taken for business purposes, that the lower part of Manhattan Island is becoming more and more devoted to business to the exclusion of residences.

A similar state of affairs has long existed in London. London consists at present of a number of incorporated towns under various names, of which one is the corporation of London, occupying the center of the city, the original London about St. Paul's. In 1881 this corporation had a population of only [illegible] while in 1891 it had become reduced to [illegible], owing to the extension of business and the consequent decline as a residence.

The average size of families has steadily declined in this country since 1850, when statistics were first obtained, from [illegible] down to 4.93 in 1890. In that year the largest families were found in the south and the smallest in New England and in the frontier states, as shown on the map (Census [illegible], figure [illegible]).

SEX.

The last five censuses—that is, since 1850—have recorded the population by sex. At each census males have been slightly in excess of females, the proportion of males ranging from 50.50 up to 51.2 of the total population, as shown in the following table:

Census years	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	49.44
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

RATE OF INCREASE
WHITE AND COLORED

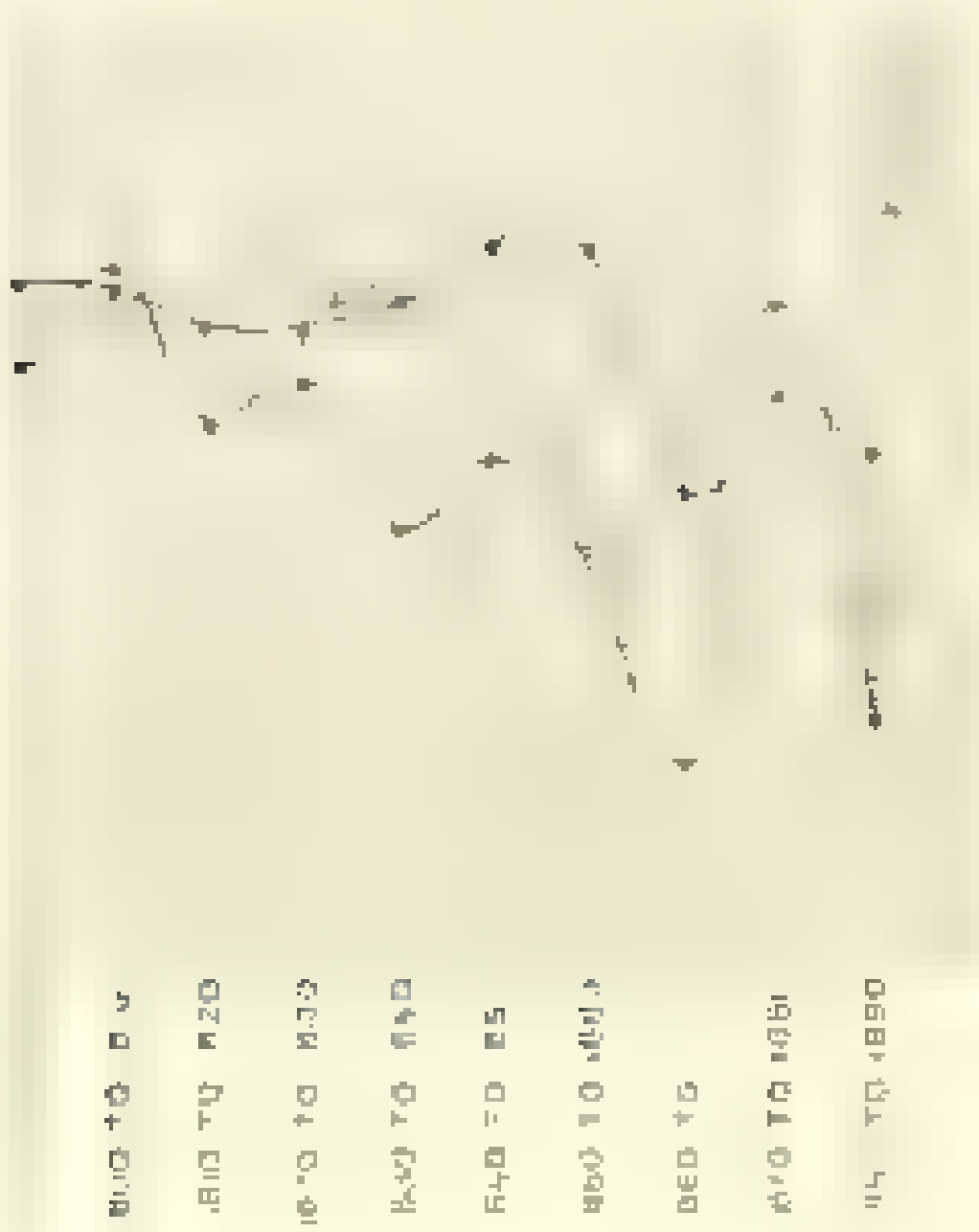


FIG 2
PROPORTION OF COLORED TO TOTAL POPULATION

[illegible] the proportions of the two races, given in percentages of the total, at each census.

Table showing the proportions by decades

Census years	White.	Colored.
"	"	
		"
	"	
"		
		"

Table showing the proportions of white and colored by year from the census.

Census years	White.	Colored.
"		
"		
	"	
"		

[illegible] nearly one-fifth of the population. In 1861, after fifty years [illegible] of slavery, during which it has been [illegible] increased [illegible] from that statistic, the proportion of colored has fallen to [illegible] of the whole. [illegible] Half a century, [illegible] 1861 [illegible] the [illegible] increase [illegible] the [illegible] of the whole population.

[illegible] the colored population [illegible] the proportion of the population which it formed a century [illegible].

[illegible] *Movement of population*

The following table and [illegible] of [illegible] plate 11 figure 1 [illegible] of increase [illegible]

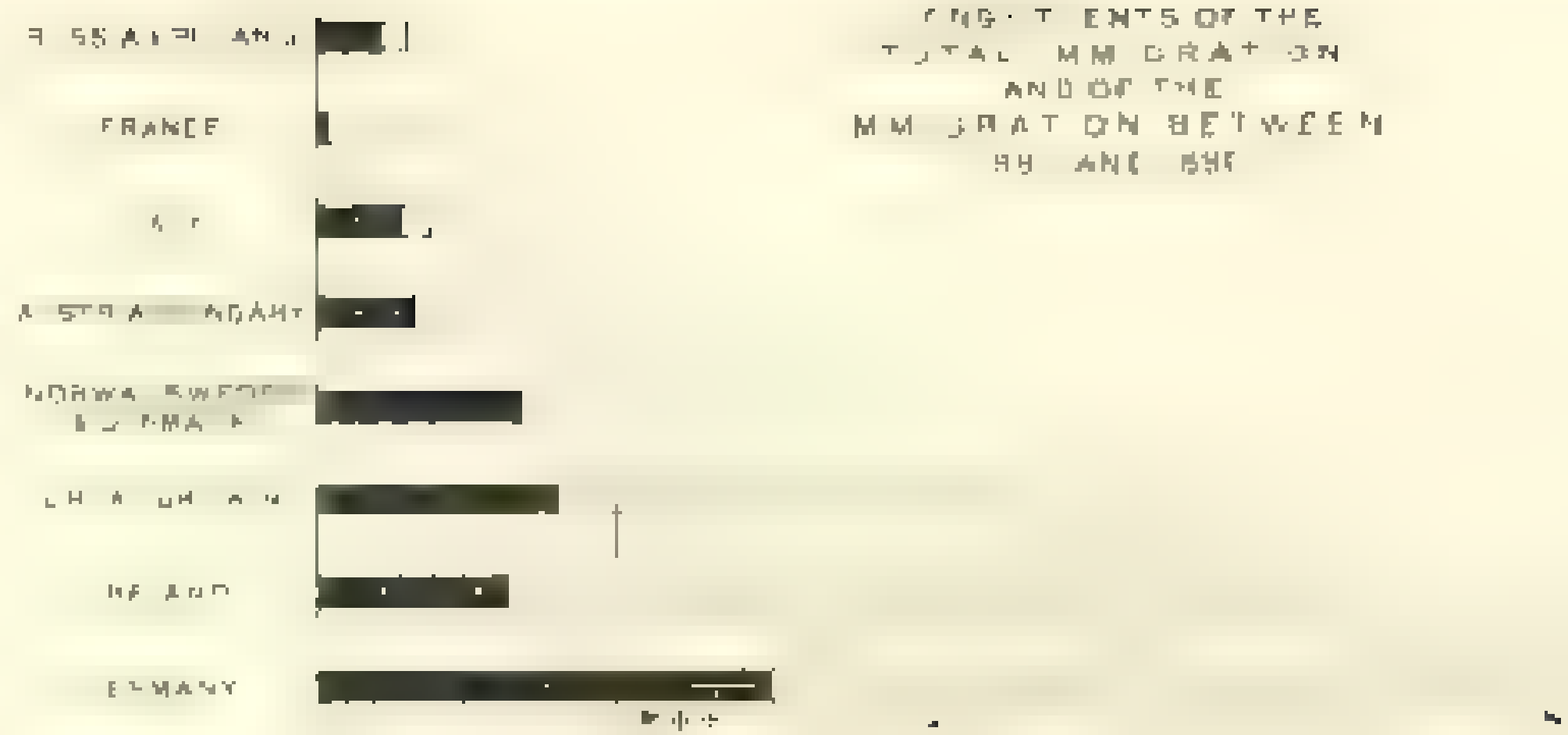
[illegible]

[illegible]	
[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]

[illegible] show that in only two [illegible] of the country have the colored people increased more rapidly than the white [illegible] between 1880 and 1890 and between 1890 and 1900. The latter however is only an apparent exception, due to a [illegible] in the enumeration of the colored people in 1870. The colored race also manifests a tendency to [illegible] in proportion to the white race throughout our country although the birth rate of the race is decidedly larger than that of the white. This [illegible] is evidenced by the [illegible] of large concentrations, and greater [illegible] but in not less, [illegible] than [illegible] the death rate of the white.

Since the [illegible] of the first [illegible] the colored race has been practically confined to the southern states as [illegible] by the map showing the distribution in 1890 where it has practically monopolized labor. There has never been any northward movement of this people sufficient to [illegible] the southern [illegible] from the former states into the other states.

Table [illegible] figure 2, shows the present [illegible] of the race. In the northern states the [illegible] is less than 3 per cent of the population, in the border states it is less than 25 per cent while in the states along the Atlantic and Gulf from Virginia to Louisiana it exceeds 25 per cent, and in three states, South Carolina, Mississippi and Louisiana, it is more than the popu-



ENGLAND

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

Nationality and Immigration

[illegible]

[illegible]

Immigrants by Months

[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]

In the first of these periods the [illegible] increase was tolerably steady, between 1840 and 1860 it rose to nearly 600,000, in the next decade it nearly trebled, and between 1870 and 1880 reached 2,500,000. Between 1880 and 1890 it fell to more than a million, owing to our internal troubles. But in the next decade it rose again to [illegible] of an never before approximating to [illegible] in 1890 to 1900 it rose to a number nearly equal to that of 1880, more than compensated

arrived in any other decade. The following table shows the principal constituents of the immigration, and gives some idea from which it appears that the Irish, Italians, Germans, and Scandinavians were the leading nations. Between 1880 and 1890 Scandinavians and Canadians seemed to appear and have increased with great rapidity. Other elements, and much less desirable ones, such as the Japanese, Bohemians, Hungarians and Poles appear first in the table, and increase especially in between 1890 and 1900. Without, indeed, it is to be wished, at least to adopt a new policy, least no numbers of them overwhelm us. Some danger may be apprehended from the Italians and from the Hungarians, which have recently increased, for they are [illegible] from [illegible] and from the fact that [illegible] increase at a [illegible] rate, so that if [illegible] for a [illegible] of [illegible] they will become [illegible] an [illegible] portion.

Principal Constituents of the Immigration.

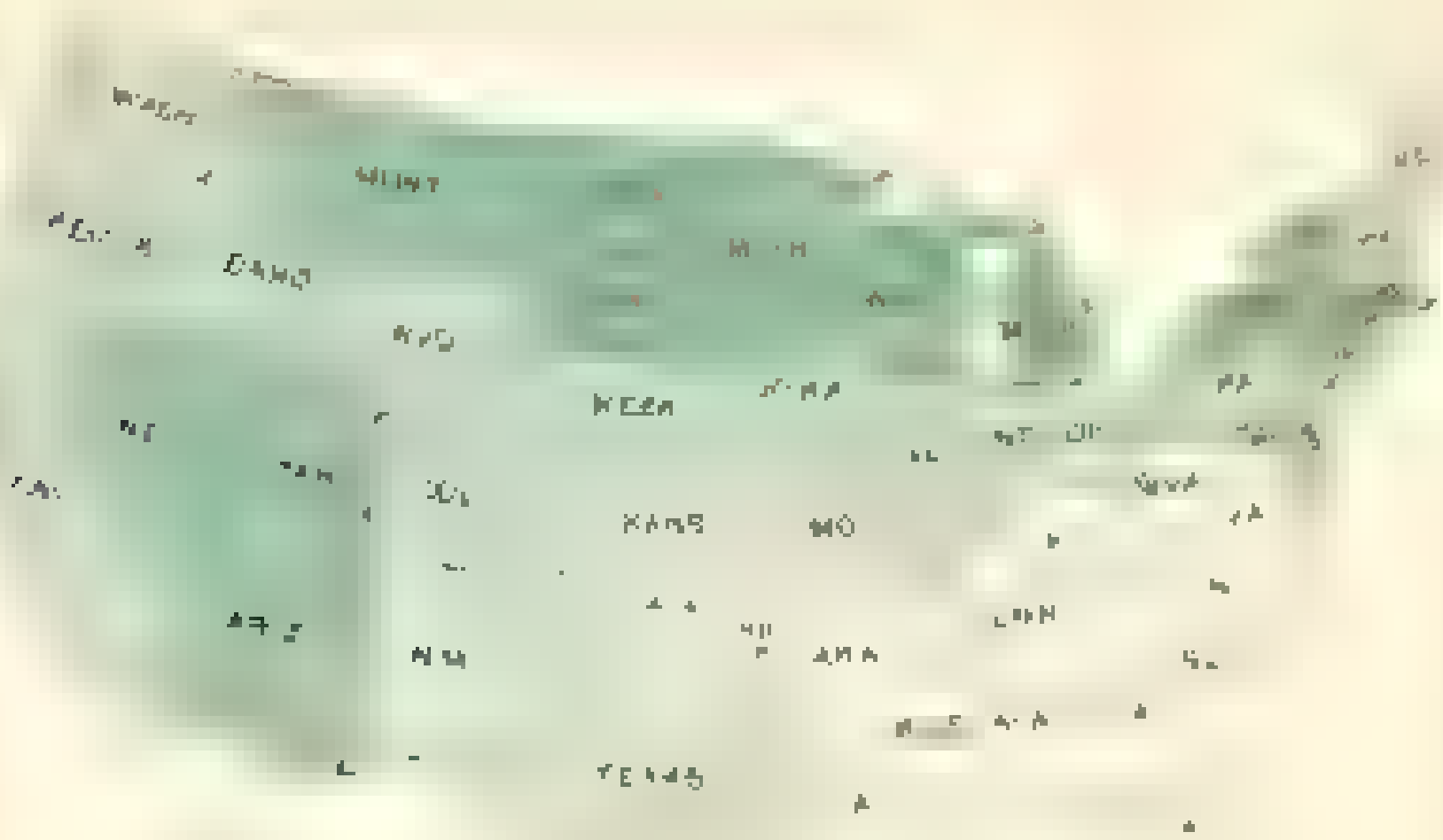
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

[illegible]

In past years the [illegible] of [illegible] on the [illegible] of [illegible] for the [illegible] not only [illegible] the [illegible] of [illegible] undesirable

FIG. 1

PROPORTION OF FOREIGN BORN TO TOTAL POPULATION



LESS THAN 3 PER CENT

8-15 "

15-25 PER CENT

MORE THAN 25

FIG. 2

MORE THAN 60 PER CENT

40-50 "

50-60 PER CENT

30-40 "

LESS THAN 30 PER CENT

DISTRIBUTION BY NATIVITY

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

Increase of the foreign born

Census years	Native	Native white	Foreign
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	

The following table shows the proportion which the native and foreign born bear to the total population of each of the [illegible]

[illegible] and the [illegible] in which the foreign born are concerned.

[illegible]

[illegible]

The maps show that distribution is not too dry exposed as percentage of total population state by state. Upon this it is seen that the bulk of the foreign born are in the north and west. The foreign born have never invaded the south to any extent worth the name. Indeed, in the northern and western states the Negroes and mulattoes are [illegible] of the foreign born [illegible].

Now, glance at the comparative [illegible] of the foreign born in all our way through the [illegible] in table 11, figure 1, presented herewith, [illegible] the foreign-born population of 1890 shows a total of [illegible] of a million, or approximately 2,700,000, followed by Ireland, 1,872,000, the British Provinces, [illegible] 1,000, Germany 1,966,000, Sweden 478,000, Norway 336,000, Denmark 132,000, Russia 182,000, Poland 96,000, Austria-Hungary 217,000, Italy 182,000, France 104,000, Switzerland 88,000, Scotland 172,000, Wales 35,000, Asia 2,000, Africa 1,000, Australia 10,000, Mexico 29,000, South America 9,000, West Indies 16,000, Other countries 2,000.

How are these elements distributed? [illegible] over the country? The [illegible] of a people [illegible] expressed in the form of a proportion [illegible] total population of the various states [illegible] total of Canadians are found [illegible] in New England, Michigan, Minnesota and North Dakota [illegible] northern tier of states. The Irish are found in New England and New York, comparatively few having [illegible]. The Germans are found from New York westward, and in the [illegible] Michigan and Wisconsin. The Scandinavians [illegible] as they could [illegible] yet remain with their [illegible] going to the [illegible] Minnesota,

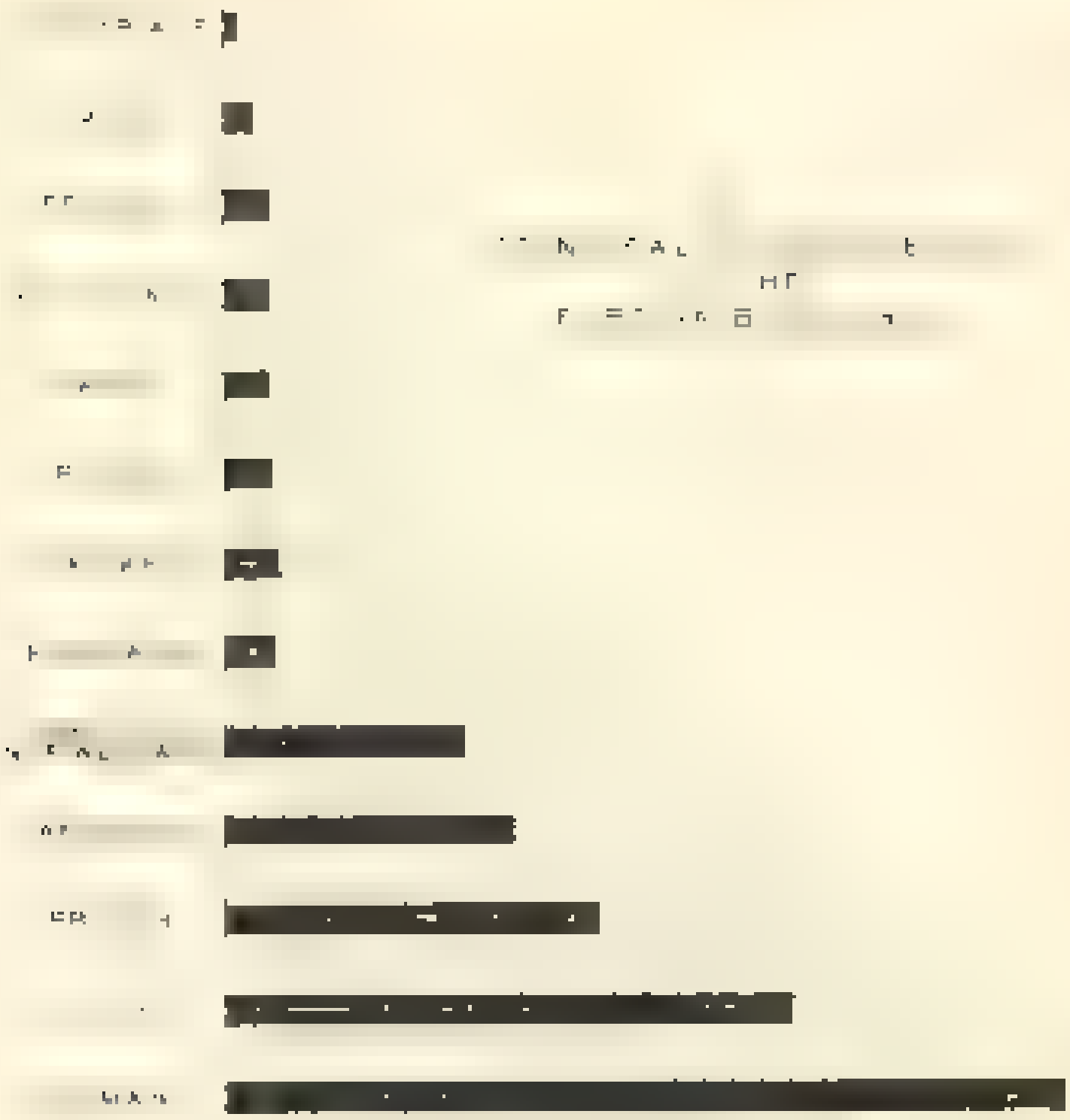
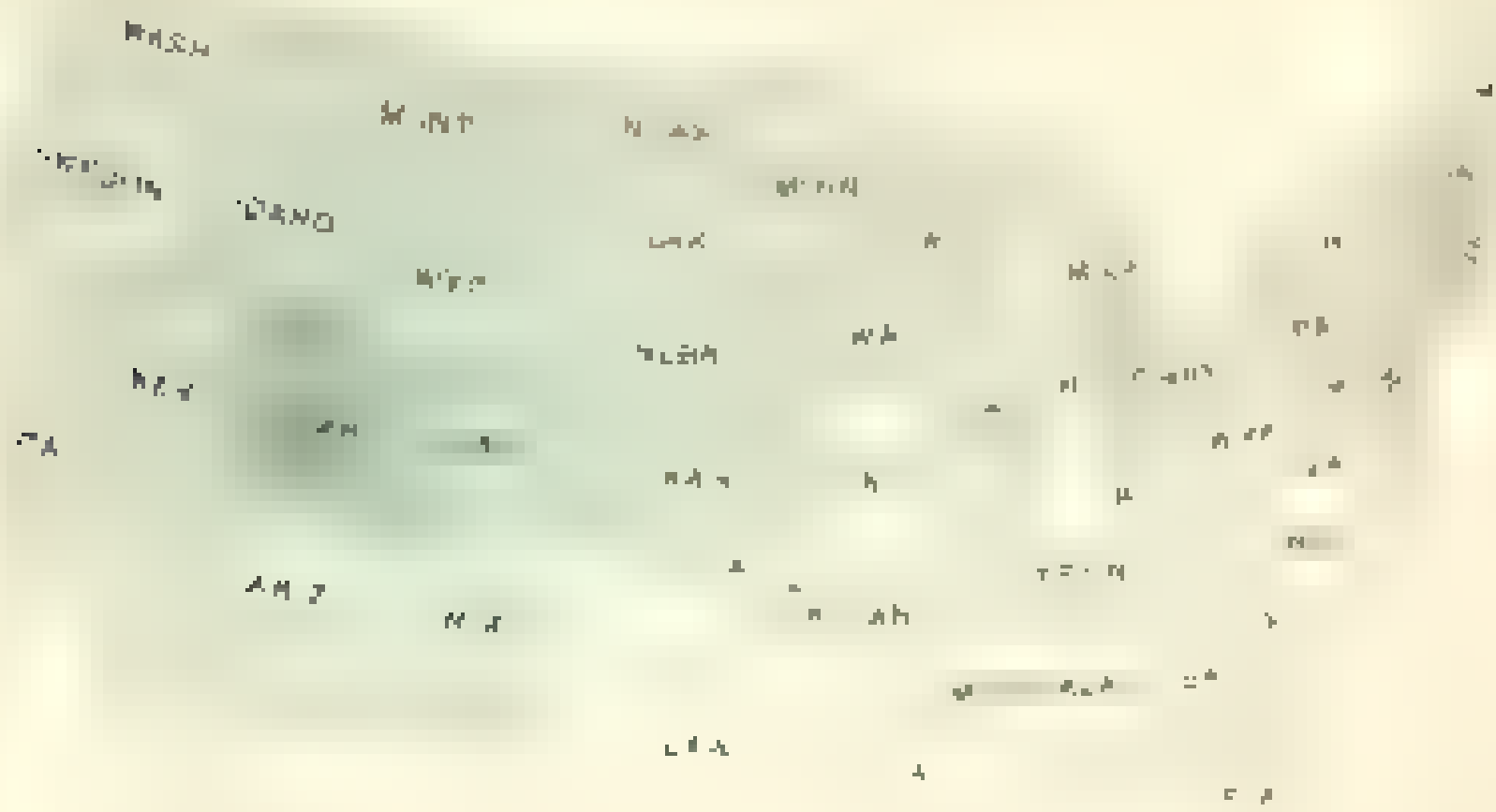
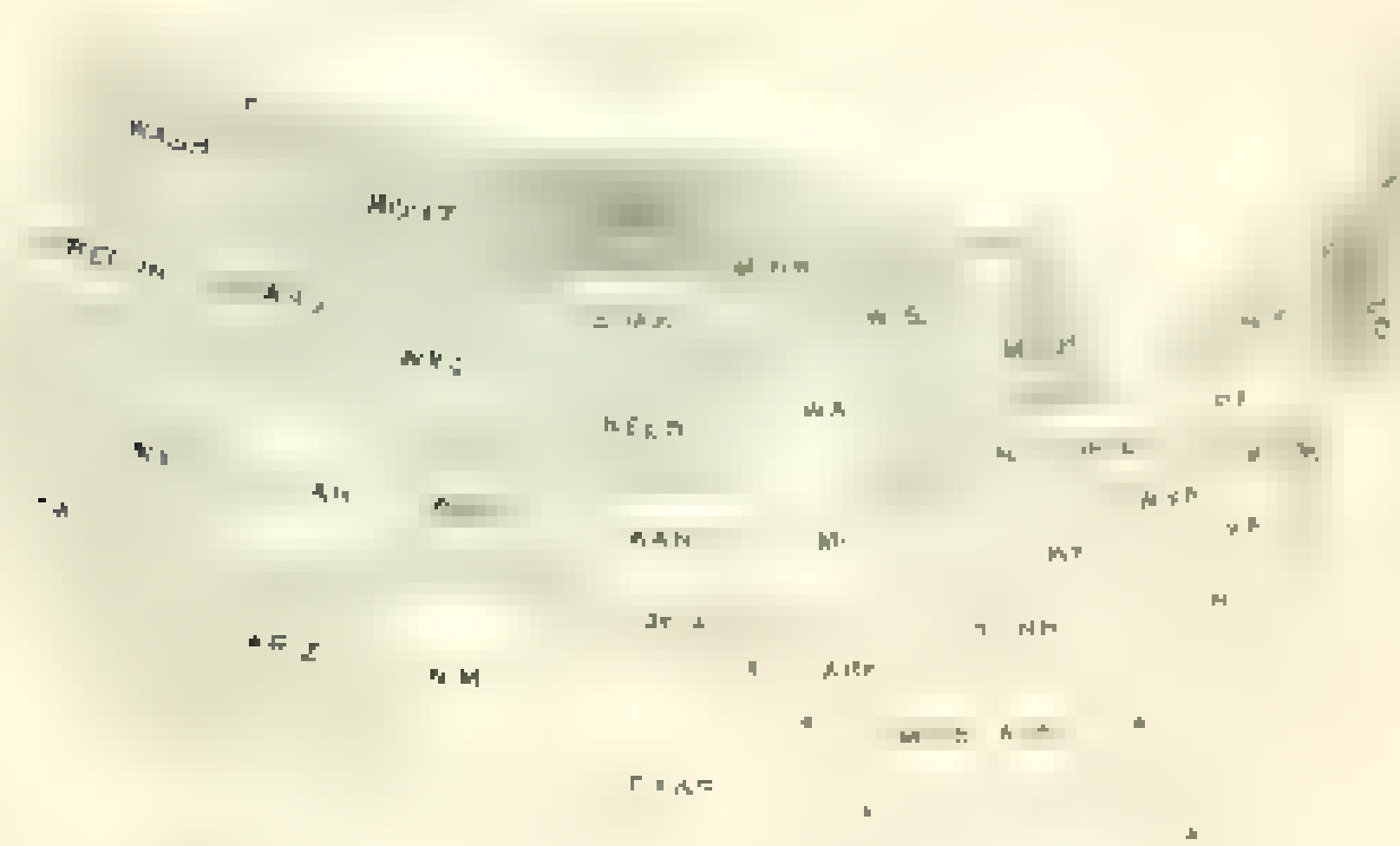


FIG. 1
PROPORTION OF BRITISH TO TOTAL POPULATION



LESS THAN 1 PER CENT — 5 PER CENT
ABOVE 10 PER CENT

FIG. 2
PROPORTION OF CANADIANS TO TOTAL POPULATION



LESS THAN 1 PER CENT — 5-10 PER CENT
ABOVE 10 PER CENT

DISTRIBUTION OF THE FOREIGN BORN

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

This flood of immigration has produced other results in our population beyond the mere addition to our numbers and the alteration of blood. It has lowered the average intelligence and morality of the community. The illiterates of the northern states are mainly foreign born, the proportion of illiterates among the foreign being four times as great as among the native born. Again, the criminal class of foreign birth in the northern states are out of all proportion to their due proportion as compared with the native born.

Another result of importance has been, I think, overlooked. It is a well known law of population that, in a broad, general way, as the population increases the rate of increase diminishes. It is an illustration of the Malthusian doctrine. Now, it matters not in the least how this increase of population is brought about, whether by natural increase or by immigration; the result is the same, the rate of natural increase is lowered thereby.

I have made a comparison between the rates of increase of the native white elements of the northern and the southern states, to ascertain approximately the effect of immigration upon the rate of increase, and the results are presented in plate 18. The southern states, including in that designation those states east of the plains and south of Mason and Dixon's line, the Ohio river and the southern boundary of Missouri and Kansas, have received practically no immigration. The states north of this line and east of the plains contain 84 per cent of the foreign element, the remaining [illegible] being mainly in the states and territories of the far west.

The rates of increase of the native whites of the southern states, which are not complicated by immigration, are representative of the natural increase of the American, and while they exhibit a gradual diminution, as is the general law, this decline is not marked from the beginning of our history to the end. Between 1790 and 1840 the white population of these states increased 250 per cent. In other words, the population of 1840 was 3.50 times that of 1790. In the succeeding fifty years the population of these states increased 254 per cent—that is, the population of these states in 1890 was 3.54 times as great as in 1840, the rate having thus [illegible] only [illegible] per cent. On the other hand, how is it with the northern states? In the first fifty years, during which there was practically no immigration, the rate of increase of the whites was considerably greater than in the southern states, and altogether during this half century the white popu-

PROPORTION OF GERMANS TO TOTAL POPULATION

[redacted]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

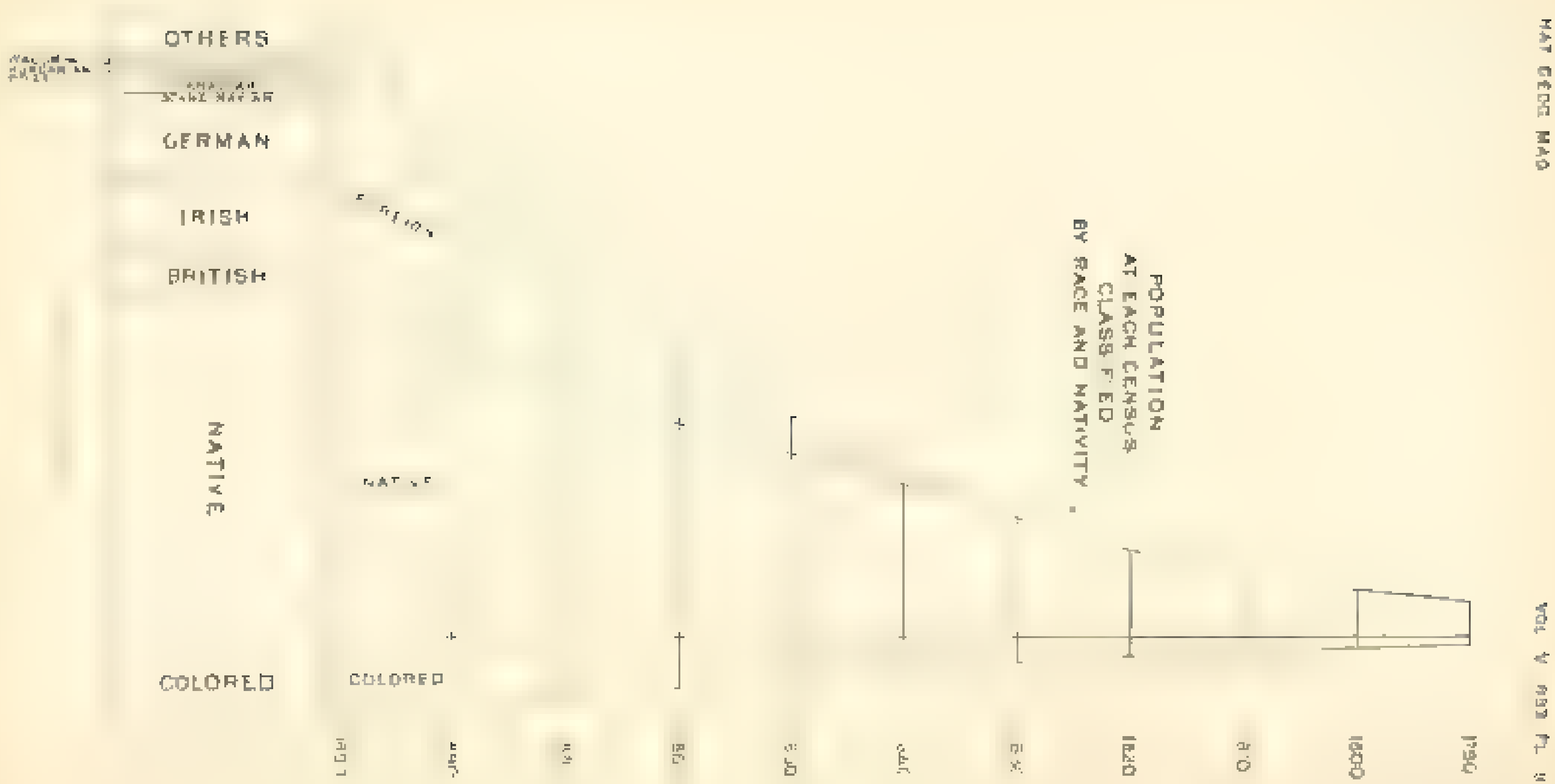
[illegible]

The Assimilation of Foreign Extraction

[illegible]

[illegible]

RATES OF INCREASE OF ALL WHITES
AND OF THE
NATIVE ELEMENT OF THE NORTH
AND OF ALL
WHITES OF THE SOUTH


MAP GEO MAO
POPULATION
AT EACH CENSUS
CLASS FED
BY RACE AND NATIVITY
1790
1800
1810
1820
1830
1840
1850
1860
1870
1880
1890
NATIVE
COLORED
NATIVE
COLORED
GERMAN
IRISH
BRITISH
OTHERS

born or children of foreign born, and in the new state of North Dakota four-fifths of the people are of immediate foreign extraction, while only one-fifth of the inhabitants are of American stock.

In our great cities the situation is even more startling. Thus, in Boston the native element constitutes but 30 per cent.; in Brooklyn, 28, and in Buffalo, 22; while New York, with only 18 per cent. is practically a foreign city, so far as its population is concerned. Chicago contains a native element of but 23 per cent and Detroit of 21, while among these great cities Milwaukee stands at the head, or foot, as you please, with a native element of but 13 per cent. These are presented graphically in the accompanying plate 17.

The most extreme case which has fallen under my notice, however, is that of the little city of Ishpeming, in the heart of the iron region of Michigan, a city of some 11,000 people, of which only 6 per cent are native born of native parents, the remainder, 94 per cent, being foreign born or the children of the foreign born.

Summary.

I have attempted to sum up in a diagram (plate 19) a part of the substance of this paper. This is an attempt to show the growth of each element of the population for a century, with its status at the end of the century.

The breadth of the diagram opposite the years is proportional to the population at that date, and the breadth of the various subdivisions is proportional to the numbers of the three elements, colored, native and foreign. The immigration of each decade is indicated by the additions between the dates. The separation between the elements of native and foreign blood is, of course, only an approximation. A tentative separation was made under the assumption that the rate of natural increase of the foreign element was equal to that of the native element. Under this assumption the separation was carried forward to 1870, where, as explained above, a definite separation was made by the census enumeration. This gave a correction which showed that the natural increase of the foreign element had been more rapid than that of the native element. Accordingly the earlier results were corrected and the rates of increase of the foreign and of the native elements thus deduced were projected forward to 1890. The

diagram at the bottom shows the present status of the population as regards colored, native and foreign blood, classifying the last by the leading nationalities.

From this it appears that the present composition of the population is somewhat as follows:

Colored	7,000,000
White of native extraction	30,000,000
White of foreign extraction	25,000,000

The principal elements of the latter are:

British	4,000,000
Irish	6,500,000
German	6,500,000
Swedes and Norwegians	1,000,000
Hungarians	500,000
Italians	500,000
Canadians	1,000,000

The remainder of the 25,000,000 are distributed among various nationalities in small numbers. The white element of native extraction is apparently in the minority today in this country, being exceeded in number by the sum of the foreign element and the colored. British blood is, however, still largely in the ascendant, for if we add to the white native element the 4,000,000 of British and 6,500,000 of Irish we get 40,500,000, about two-thirds of the entire population and three-fourths of the entire white population.